



NORTHBRIDGE

Worcester County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

The Town of Northbridge was incorporated in 1772. It is a full service community providing a full array of municipal services plus an extensive infrastructure including water and sewer utilities. Electricity is provided by the Massachusetts Electric and gas by Commonwealth Gas Company. The community has a rich manufacturing heritage. The Blackstone and Mumford Rivers run through the Town and in the early 1800's numerous industrial developments were erected along the river banks, most notably the Whitin Machine Shop in Whitinsville. Today most of the mill buildings are no longer used to full capacity, however, they do offer valuable incubator space to small businesses. Further, most of the Town's architecture developed during the 1800's has been preserved and serves as a fascinating view into the past.

Northbridge is part of the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission and is actively working with its neighboring communities to promote the region's special character and sense of history. The foremost goals of the Town at present are: to strengthen the local economy through developing and reusing industrial areas as well as retaining existing businesses, and; to keep Northbridge as a desirable place to live through preserving and revitalizing the village centers, maintaining and expanding town services, and protecting natural resources.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Southern Massachusetts, bordered by Grafton on the north, Upton and Mendon on the east, Uxbridge on the south, and Sutton on the west. Northbridge is 13 miles southeast of Worcester, 38 miles southwest of Boston, 60 miles from Springfield, and 178 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 18.06 sq. miles

Land Area: 17.19 sq. miles

Population: 13,371

Density: 778 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(West Medway Station)

Normal temperature in January.....23.9°F

Normal temperature in July.....70.8°F

Normal annual precipitation.....46.6"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Grafton, Uxbridge, Blackstone, Milford

Regional Planning Agency

Central Massachusetts

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Worcester



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (508) 234-2095

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Town Manager

Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1772

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	7,025		
Democrats	1,934	27.5	%
Republicans	1,172	16.7	%
Other parties	2	0.0	%
Unenrolled Voters	3,917	55.8	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Northbridge town, Worcester County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	13,182	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	13,182	100.0
Male.....	6,274	47.6	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	241	1.8
Female.....	6,908	52.4	Mexican.....	28	0.2
Under 5 years.....	975	7.4	Puerto Rican.....	104	0.8
5 to 9 years.....	1,060	8.0	Cuban.....	6	-
10 to 14 years.....	1,037	7.9	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	103	0.8
15 to 19 years.....	820	6.2	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	12,941	98.2
20 to 24 years.....	531	4.0	White alone.....	12,587	95.5
25 to 34 years.....	1,846	14.0	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	2,274	17.3	Total population.....	13,182	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	1,767	13.4	In households.....	12,796	97.1
55 to 59 years.....	615	4.7	Householder.....	4,800	36.4
60 to 64 years.....	496	3.3	Spouse.....	2,830	21.5
65 to 74 years.....	763	5.8	Child.....	4,261	32.3
75 to 84 years.....	699	5.3	Own child under 18 years.....	3,445	26.1
85 years and over.....	359	2.7	Other relatives.....	426	3.2
Median age (years).....	36.5	(X)	Under 18 years.....	120	0.9
18 years and over.....	9,558	72.5	Nonrelatives.....	479	3.6
Male.....	4,438	33.7	Unmarried partner.....	262	2.0
Female.....	5,120	38.8	In group quarters.....	386	2.9
21 years and over.....	9,199	69.8	Institutionalized population.....	365	2.8
62 years and over.....	2,080	15.8	Noninstitutionalized population.....	21	0.2
65 years and over.....	1,821	13.8	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	662	5.0	Total households.....	4,800	100.0
Female.....	1,159	8.8	Family households (families).....	3,501	72.9
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	1,803	37.6
One race.....	12,966	98.4	Married-couple family.....	2,830	59.0
White.....	12,688	96.3	With own children under 18 years.....	1,417	29.5
Black or African American.....	79	0.6	Female householder, no husband present.....	494	10.3
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	22	0.2	With own children under 18 years.....	299	6.2
Asian.....	42	0.3	Nonfamily households.....	1,299	27.1
Asian Indian.....	1	-	Householder living alone.....	1,080	22.5
Chinese.....	4	-	Householder 65 years and over.....	461	9.6
Filipino.....	5	-	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	1,889	39.4
Japanese.....	1	-	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	1,090	22.7
Korean.....	9	0.1	Average household size.....	2.67	(X)
Vietnamese.....	1	-	Average family size.....	3.15	(X)
Other Asian ¹	21	0.2	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	4	-	Total housing units.....	4,941	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	1	-	Occupied housing units.....	4,800	97.1
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	141	2.9
Samoa.....	2	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	1	-	occasional use.....	11	0.2
Some other race.....	131	1.0	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.9	(X)
Two or more races.....	216	1.6	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	3.2	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			HOUSING TENURE		
<i>or more other races: ³</i>			Occupied housing units.....	4,800	100.0
White.....	12,890	97.7	Owner-occupied housing units.....	3,176	66.2
Black or African American.....	141	1.1	Renter-occupied housing units.....	1,624	33.8
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	82	0.6	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.82	(X)
Asian.....	74	0.6	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	2.37	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	23	0.2			
Some other race.....	212	1.6			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State:	86
Conventional Federal:	0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP:	3
Federal (Section 8):	0



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Northbridge is located in the Blackstone River Valley, which played a major role in early American industrial development, due to its natural resources and strategic location Worcester and Providence. Situated between Interstates 90, 395, and 495, today the Blackstone Valley has good highway and rail access to the ports, airports, and intermodal facilities of Worcester, Providence, and Boston.

Major Highways

Principal highways are State Route 122, which links key sites along the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor, and State Route 146.

Rail

The Providence and Worcester Railroad provides freight rail service to Northbridge. Contact number: (508) 755-4000 ext. 310

Bus

Northbridge is not affiliated with a regional transit authority.

Other

The Worcester Municipal Airport, a Primary Commercial (PR) facility with scheduled passenger service, is easily accessible. It has 2 asphalt runways 5,500' and 6,999' long. Instrument approaches available: Precision and non-precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

None

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

Beaumont Nursing Home

Northbridge Nursing & Rehab. Center

St. Camillus Nursing Home

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.